IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

.

Masaru FUSE et al.

•

Serial No. NEW

Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Filed January 6, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 2003_1755

OPTICAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEM AND OPTICAL TRANSMITTER AND OPTICAL RECEIVER USED THEREFOR (Rule 1.53(b) Divisional of Serial No. 09/975,188, Filed October 12, 2001)

CLAIM OF PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC 119

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 O CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE EES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT CCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Applicants in the above-entitled application hereby claim the date of priority under the International Convention of Japanese Patent Application No. 226291/1997, filed August 22, 1997, Japanese Patent Application No. 60135/1998, filed March 11, 1998 and Japanese Patent Application No.121498/1998, filed April 30, 1998, as acknowledged in the Declaration of this application.

Certified copies of said Japanese Patent Applications are of record in parent application Serial No.09/136,934, filed August 20, 1998.

Respectfully submitted,

Masaru FUSE et al.

Bv

Thomas D. Robbins Registration No. 43,369 Attorney for Applicants

TDR/jlg Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 January 6, 2004